### **Department of Financial Institutions**

http://www.dfi.ca.gov



# Monthly Bulletin

Volume 10, Number 1

**July 2006** 

# **DFI Issues Cease and Desist Warning to Geneva World Banc**

A warning to cease and desist from doing business in California without a license from the Commissioner of Financial Institutions was issued to Geneva World Banc, 34145 Pacific Coast Highway, #338, Dana Point, California 92629.

Geneva World Banc is not authorized to transact business in the way or manner of a bank and is not authorized to transact business under a name which contains the word "bank" or any derivative of the word "bank," such as "banc" and indicates that such business is in the business of a bank pursuant to Chapter 18 of Division 1 of the California Financial Code. All persons who have communicated with Geneva World Banc are asked to contact the Department of Financial Institutions, Legal Division, San Francisco, at (415) 263-8541.

# Advisory Notice – Advance Fee Scam

We have received notice that fraudulent emails, originating from the Netherlands, are being perpetrated on Californians. Although the most recent fraudulent email is dated June 25, 2006, this is not a new scam. This particular "advance fee/fake lottery" scam has been around for at least a year.

The fraudulent email announces that the recipient has won an online lottery and is being awarded a large cash prize. The perpetrator's intent is to dupe the recipient into setting up a bank account that requires a sizable (anywhere from \$1,500 to \$5,500) initial deposit, which will be accessed by the perpetrator. This is a typical advance fee payment fraud whereby the victim is required to pay a fee prior to receiving the purported prize.

111 Pine Street, Suite 1100, San Francisco, CA 94111-5613	(415) 263-8500
300 South Spring Street, Suite 15513, Los Angeles, CA 90013-1204	(213) 897-2085
1810—13 <sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-7118	(916) 322-5966
7575 Metropolitan Drive, Suite 108, San Diego, CA 92108-4421	(619) 682-7227
Consumer Compliance	(800) 622-0620

### Features of a Typical Scheme

The intended victim receives an unsolicited email from co-ordinator@bankgirolotto.com with the subject line: "CONTACT YOUR FOREIGN TRANSFER MANAGER." Following the subject line, the victim is directed to contact the foreign transfer manager, Bank Giro Loterij International Promotion & Prize Award Department, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The emails often begin with "Dear Winner."

In almost all instances, the email, in grammatically incorrect English, will state that the victim's email address had been selected as one of the winners of an online sweepstakes. The stated prize is always very large, often one million Euros or more. The intended victim is then asked to provide some personal identifying information, such as name, occupation, mailing address, phone number, nationality and email address (which, of course, they already have). To discourage potential victims from making inquiries about the legitimacy of the lottery, the email will sometimes include a confidentiality statement to "...avoid double claiming or unscrupulous acts by participants..." Then, that statement would be followed with the warning that any breach of confidentiality will result in disqualification.

Ultimately, the perpetrator will require the payment of a fee before the lottery winnings can be distributed, and any fee paid will be lost to the victim. We strongly encourage you to inform your customers, friends and associates of this potential fraud so that they may protect their valuable assets.

# Transmitter of Money Abroad Voluntarily Surrenders License

Dollars Express International, Inc. (DEI) has voluntarily surrendered its license to operate in California. The surrender was accepted by the Department on July 7, 2006 with DEI voluntarily suspending California operations as of May 25, 2006. Contact information for DEI: Tiffany Uyen Nguyen, President, 15397 Brookhurst Street, Westminster, CA 92683 or by phone (714) 418-1520. Consumers who wish to file a claim should call the DFI Consumer Information Desk's toll free number, 1-800-622-0620 or email <a href="mailto:consumer@dfi.ca.gov">consumer@dfi.ca.gov</a>. Consumer complaint forms in English and Spanish are available at <a href="http://www.dfi.ca.gov/forms/consumer/consumer.asp">http://www.dfi.ca.gov/forms/consumer/consumer.asp</a>.

# **DFI and Groupex Financial Corporation Enter into a Settlement**

On July 11, 2006, the Acting Commissioner of Financial Institutions entered into a settlement agreement with Groupex Financial Corporation ("Groupex"), in which Groupex agreed to pay \$25,000 to the Department and the Acting Commissioner agreed to take no further action with respect to alleged violations of the Financial Code related to the use of unapproved receipts and inaccurate reporting.

# DFI and Vigo Remittance Corp. Enter into a Settlement

On July 11, 2006, the Acting Commissioner of Financial Institutions entered into a settlement agreement with Vigo Remittance Corp. ("Vigo"), in which Vigo agreed to pay \$75,000 to the Department and the Acting Commissioner agreed to take no further action with respect to alleged violations of the Financial Code related to failure to maintain required minimum tangible net worth.

# **Commercial Bank Activity**

#### **New Bank**

1<sup>st</sup> Enterprise Bank

818 West Seventh Street, City and County of Los Angeles

(213) 430-7000

Officers: David C. Holman, Chairman of the Board

K. Brian Horton, President

John C. Black, Chief Executive Officer

Capitalization: \$27,500,000.00

Website: http://www.1stenterprisebank.com

Opened: 7/3/06

Alta Alliance Bank

1951 Webster Street, Oakland, Alameda County

Correspondent: Arnold Grisham 360 – 17th Street, Ste. 150 Oakland, CA 94612

(510) 625-9040

agrisham@altacalbank.com

Name changed on 7/10/06 from Alta California Bank

Approved: 7/21/06

American Riviera Bank

1033 Anacapa Street, City and County of Santa Barbara

(805) 965-5942

Officers: Lawrence Koppelman, Chairman

Michael Salsbury, President

David Duarte, Executive Vice President, Chief Credit Officer, and Chief Operations Officer

Michelle Martinich, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Laurie Leighty, Senior Vice President, Operations and Human Resources

Capitalization: \$24,942,350.00

Website: http://www.americanrivierabank.com

Opened: 7/18/06

#### **New Bank (Continued)**

Atlantic Pacific Bank

3725 Westwind Boulevard, Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

(707) 236-1500

Officers: Charles O. Hall, President and Chief Executive Officer

Allen Christenson, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Capitalization: \$27,500,000.00

Website: http://www.apbconnect.com

Opened: 7/10/06

#### Capital Bank

31351 Rancho Viejo Road, San Juan Capistrano, Orange County

Correspondent: Richard Arnold

Carpenter & Company 5 Park Plaza, Suite 950 Irvine, CA 92614 (949) 261-8888 Filed: 7/10/06

#### Cornerstone Community Bank

510 Luther Road, Red Bluff, Tehama County

Correspondent: Gary Steven Findley Gary Steven Findley & Associates 1470 North Hundley Street Anaheim, CA 92806 (714) 630-7136

Approved: 7/21/06

#### Focus Business Bank

Vicinity of Almaden Boulevard and Santa Clara Street, San Jose, Santa Clara County

Correspondent: Richard L. Coniff 2033 Gateway Place, Fifth Floor San Jose, CA 95110 (408) 573-6907

Filed: 7/25/06

#### Pacific Alliance Bank

Intersection of Valley Boulevard and San Gabriel Boulevard, Rosemead, Los Angeles County

Correspondent: Maryam Hamzeh

Carpenter & Company Five Park Plaza, Suite 950 Irvine, CA 92614

(949) 261-8888 Approved: 7/7/06

#### **New Bank (Continued)**

Pinnacle Bank

18181 Butterfield Boulevard, Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County

408-762-7171

Officers: David Funkhouser, President and Chief Executive Officer

Bruce Kendall, Chief Financial Officer Henry Chow, Chief Credit Officer Capitalization: \$27,500,000.00

Website: http://www.pinnaclebankonline.com

Opened: 7/17/06

Premier Business Bank

700 South Flower Street, City and County of Los Angeles

(213) 689-4800

Officers: David B. Warner, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer

Chris Chan, Chief Financial Officer Stephen Rolfe, Chief Credit Officer Capitalization: \$20,256,780.00

Opened: 7/25/06

Presidio Bank

One Montgomery Tower, 120 Kearny Street, City and County of San Francisco

(415) 398-3100

Officers: Stephen A. Fleming, President and Chief Executive Officer

Edward J. Murphy, Chief Financial Officer Mary Leonard Wilson, Chief Credit Officer

Capitalization: \$40,000,000.00

Website: http://www.presidiobank.com

Opened: 7/24/06

#### Merger

Great Eastern Bank, New York, New York, to merge with and into United Commercial Bank, San

Francisco, California Withdrawn: 2/21/06

NVB Business Bank, Woodland to merge with and into North Valley Bank, Redding

Effected: 6/30/06

#### **Acquisition of Control**

First Bank, to acquire control of San Diego Community Bank

Approved: 7/14/06

Santa Lucia Bancorp to acquire control of Santa Lucia Bank

Approved: 2/15/06

### **Acquisition of Control (Continued)**

Sunwest Bancorp, to acquire control of Sunwest Bank, Tustin

Withdrawn: 12/28/05

#### **Purchase of Partial Business Unit**

Metro United Bank, San Diego, to acquire the Irvine Branch of Omni Bank, N.A., Alhambra

Approved: 7/25/06

## **Premium Finance Company Activity**

#### **Voluntary Surrender of License**

Cornerstone Group, Inc.

Effected: 7/5/06

Fox Financial Services, Inc.

Effected: 7/18/06

### Foreign (Other Nation) Bank Activity

#### **New Office**

Lloyds TSB Offshore Limited

1800 Century Park East, City and County of Los Angeles (Representative office)

Filed: 7/11/06

Macquarie Bank Limited

City and County of San Francisco (Representative office)

Filed: 7/17/06

International Commercial Bank of China Co., Ltd, The

- 445 S. Figueroa Street, City and County of Los Angeles (Wholesale branch office)
- 333 West San Carlos Street, San Jose, Santa Clara County (Wholesale branch office)

Filed: 5/8/06

## Foreign (Other State) Bank Activity

#### **New Facility**

Bank of Nevada (Facility – Insured Bank)

200 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, Contra Costa County

Address changed on 7/10/06: from 200 Pringle Avenue, Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County

Opened: 7/17/06

#### **New Facility (Continued)**

The Bankers Bank (Facility – Insured Bank) Location to be determined, State of California

Notified: 7/20/06

## **Credit Union Activity**

#### Field of Membership

Eight credit unions received approvals to add 13 new fields of membership during June 2006.

#### **Bylaw Amendment**

Three credit union received approval for 3 bylaw amendments during June 2006.

#### Variance

One credit union received approval for requests for variances to sections of the California Code of Regulations during June 2006.

#### Merger

Affinity West Federal Credit Union, Los Angeles with and into Public Works Credit Union, Alhambra Approved: 6/13/06

South Coast Community Federal Credit Union, Goleta, to merge with and into Wescom Credit Union,

Pasadena Filed: 7/21/06 Approved: 7/26/06

United Defense Federal Credit Union, El Segundo, to merge with and into California Bear Credit Union,

Los Angeles Effected: 7/28/06

West One Federal Credit Union, Livermore, to merge with and into KeyPoint Credit Union, Santa Clara

Effected: 7/1/06

#### **Acquisition of Control**

Wescom Credit Union, Pasadena, to acquire control of Silvergate Bank, La Jolla

Withdrawn: 7/27/06

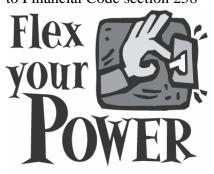
# **Issuer of Travelers Checks Activity**

### **Voluntary Surrender of License**

Citicorp Services, Inc. Effected: 6/30/04

MICHAEL A. KELLEY
Acting Commissioner of Financial Institutions

Bulletin for Month ended July 2006, issued pursuant to Financial Code section 258



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